



The Mohawk College Foundation

In December of 1983, the Ontario and Federal governments approved the creation of a charitable foundation to assist Mohawk College financially. The following is an overview by Ray Heath, Corporate Secretary.

Planning began for the Mohawk College Foundation in 1980. Many universities had had fund-raising activities for some years and hospitals were becoming active in this field. Initially, a task force, with representation from the College Board of Governors, the College auditors and some senior members of College administration, met to study the possibility of forming a corporation for the financial benefit of Mohawk College. The task force was also to ascertain and resolve, as far as they could, any problems and to consider the relationship of a Foundation with the Provincial Government and the Ontario taxpayer.

One significant point that emerged was that there had been occasions when donations to a college foundation could have been made, but, because an appropriate vehicle did not then exist, some potential benefits to the college were being lost.

The Ministry of Colleges and Universities, at that time, had indicated its desire to exercise control of excess college funds. This is quite justifiable as colleges are funded 90% by the taxpayer and it would not be responsible for a college to build up an enormous monetary reserve with undefined aims and limits.

It was also felt, in the early days, that there might be some resistance by corporations and individuals to donate to an organization already funded by the taxpayer. This would, in effect, mean the donor was giving twice. The worsening economy was annually reducing the level of Government funding to colleges. The point was approaching where potential students were to be turned away and the quality of our post-secondary education would soon be in difficulty unless strong measures were taken. The approaching dilemma was identified by friends of the College who proved helpful in suggestions for the Foundation, and demonstrated the willingness of the community to support higher education at Mohawk.

Arrangements were made to establish a foundation for the financial benefit of Mohawk College, at an arms length relationship, that would:

- be satisfactory to the Mohawk College Board of Governors

- be acceptable to the Ministry and Provincial Government
- be practical and reasonable to the citizens and community groups of Area 9.
- provide adequate or supplementary financial support for Mohawk College educational programs, leading to the benefit of the community.

When this stage began it was very gratifying to Mohawk College that there were so many active and concerned friends in the community. These are, to name only a few, past members of the Board of Governors of the College, members of Advisory committees, and chief executive officers of many commercial and industrial organizations in the area; all of whom had donated their time and energies to the furtherance of the work of Mohawk College. Many

expressed their willingness to assist in the formation of the Foundation. Within a very short time a fifteen-member Board of Directors for the Foundation had been assembled. The next step was to arrange formal documentation through proper legal channels.

The Ministry at Queen's Park was informed of developments. Encouragement to continue was received.

Through the College solicitor, the application for the formation of a corporation was completed, together with the application to Revenue Canada for a Charitable Donations registration number so that receipts for income tax purposes could be issued. By-laws and objectives were completed and the process of incorporation begun.

Late in 1983 incorporation was granted from Queen's Park and the registration number as a Charitable Institution was processed. Various delays had been experienced. New corporate legislation had meant a change in the manner of application after the initial work had been done requiring a re-filing. Changes to the legislation regarding charitable donations and foundations had been proposed. It had been necessary to verify that, because the Foundation proposed for Mohawk College was to operate without share capital, the proposed legislation changes would not apply.

The Mohawk College Foundation came into legal existence in December 1983. Work is currently being finalized on fund-raising campaigns.

The Mohawk College Foundation Board of Directors

Stephen Fletcher	Insurance Administrator	Canada Life (Chairman)
Dr. J.D. Galloway	Physician	Gerontology Research Council of Ontario (Vice Chairman)
D.O. Braley	Orlick Industries	President
P.J. Phoenix	Dofasco Inc.	President
G.O. Bernhardt	Westinghouse Canada Inc.	Vice President Corporate Productivity & Quality
F. Richter	Eastgate Ford	President Eastgate Sales and Service Ltd.
J.S. Gillespie	International Harvester	Supervisor, Financial Computer Systems
J.R. McMurrich	Stelco Inc.	Manager General Marketing Services
J.D. Mitchell	Stelco, Hilton Works	Foreman
Mrs. Anne H. Jones	Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth	Regional Chairman
Margaret A. Charters	Hamilton General Hospital	Assistant Administrator Nursing & Patient Care Services
E.W. Scarrow	former Board of Governors Chairman	Engineer
Mrs. Ann Sloat	Town of Ancaster	Mayor
K.L. McIntyre	Mohawk College	President
A.J. Whitworth	Mohawk College	Vice President